

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claim Status

Claims 1-19 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 2, 7, 9 and 10 have been rejected and claims 3-6, 8 and 11-16 have been objected to by the Examiner. Claims 17-19 have been allowed. Claims 1 and 9 are herein amended. No new matter has been added by these amendments.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 7, 9 and 10 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,489,840 (Botti).

Claim 1 has been amended to recite, a class-D power amplifier comprising, inter alia,

a feedback control circuit, which generates and outputs a switching control signal whose logic state changes according to the logic state of an abnormal state detecting signal generated in response to a monitoring signal; and

a controlled circuit, which receives and modulates the integral signal into a pulse width modulation (PWM) signal and generates an output signal, wherein the monitoring signal is the output signal or a modulated version of the output signal.

In contrast to the present invention recited in claim 1, Botti does not disclose a feedback control circuit, which generates and outputs a switching control signal whose logic state changes according to the logic state of an abnormal state detecting signal generated in response to a monitoring signal, “wherein the monitoring signal is the output

signal [of a controlled circuit] or a modulated version of the output signal”. Instead, Botti discloses an amplification apparatus that includes a signal amplification block, which in turn includes, a power amplification block and a switch block. The switch block includes a flip flop, a switch and a resistance. In operation, the flip flop receives an input signal C, which is a first input square wave signal, and an input signal En, which is an enable signal for turning on and off the amplification apparatus, to produce an output signal Ens.

As can be gleaned, the signals C and En are not monitoring signals received from a controlled circuit. For example, the signals C and En are not received from a power stage, which has been indicated by the Examiner as being the controlled circuit, instead they are received from an unidentified source. Further, the power stage does not output a monitoring signal to the flip flop, which has been indicated by the Examiner as being the feedback control circuit. Instead, the power stage outputs a signal Vo to a filter and a resistance. As such, Applicants believe that the invention as recited in claim 1 is patentable over Botti because Botti does not teach, disclose or suggest at least the monitoring signal as claimed therein.

Claim 9 has been similarly amended and is believed to be allowable for at least the reasons discussed above with regard to claim 1.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claim 2 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Botti in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,805,020 (Danz).

With regard to the rejection of claim 2, claim 2 is believed to be allowable for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1 from which it depends.

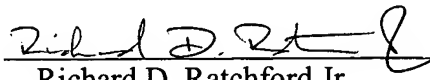
Dependent Claims

Applicants have not independently addressed the rejections of the dependent claims because Applicants submit that, in view of the amendments to the claims presented herein and, for at least similar reasons as why the independent claims from which the dependent claims depend are believed allowable as discussed, supra, the dependent claims are also allowable. Applicants however, reserve the right to address any individual rejections of the dependent claims should such be necessary or appropriate.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, Applicants submit that the claims as herein presented are allowable over the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, and that the respective rejections be withdrawn. Applicants further submit that the application is hereby placed in condition for allowance which action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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